

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 CAIRO 20083 301545Z
ACTION HEW-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 SS-15
/042 W

-----020760 311051Z /13

R 301524Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3266
INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

UNCLAS CAIRO 20083

NEA/EGY PASS AMBASSADOR EILTS

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OVIP, EG
SUBJ: VISIT OF HEW SECRETARY CALIFANO

REF: STATE 219181

1. MINISTER OF HEALTH BADRAN IS OUT OF EGYPT UNTIL
SEPTEMBER 19 ON TRIP TO SAUDI ARABIA AND SOVIET UNION.
HIS OFFICE INDICATES THAT IT WILL NOT BE FEASIBLE TO
COMMUNICATE WITH HIM BEFORE HIS RETURN. IN HIS ABSENCE WE
HAVE DISCUSSED PROPOSED TRIP BY HEW SECRETARY CALIFANO
WITH MINISTRY OF HEALTH UNDERSECRETARY FOR MINISTER'S
OFFICE AFFAIRS DR. RAMSES GOMAA, WHO IS ALSO GOE HEALTH
MINISTRY JOINT WORKING GROUP COORDINATOR.

2. DR. GOMAA SAID THAT IN PRINCIPLE HE IS SURE MINISTER
BADRAN WOULD WELCOME VISIT BY SECRETARY CALIFANO, BUT HE
POINTED OUT THAT PROPOSED NOVEMBER 8-12 DATES FALL
PARTIALLY WITHIN IMPORTANT MUSLIM HOLIDAY PERIOD OF KURBAN
BAIRAM WHEN VISITS TO MANY PROJECTS OF INTEREST WOULD NOT
BE POSSIBLE. HE INDICATED THAT LATTER HALF OF MONTH WOULD
BE MUCH BETTER TIMING FROM MINISTRY'S POINT OF VIEW.
GOMAA SPECIFICALLY SUGGESTED PERIOD BEGINNING SATURDAY,
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NOVEMBER 25, AS IDEAL FOR SECRETARY'S VISIT.

3. WE NOTE THAT PROPOSED TRIP WILL INVOLVE TRAVEL TO
ISRAEL AND POLAND. ADVISE IF EGYPT COULD BE INCLUDED AS
LAST, RATHER THAN FIRST, STOP. EMBASSY WOULD WELCOME
VISIT BY SECRETARY VIRTUALLY AT HIS CONVENIENCE, BUT
BELIEVE GOE VIEW, AS EXPRESSED BY GOMAA, SHOULD BE TAKEN

INTO CONSIDERATION.

4. WE BELIEVE VISIT BY ADVANCE TEAM WOULD BE USEFUL IN
ARRANGING DETAILS OF SECRETARY CALIFANO'S VISIT.
MATTHEWS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978CAIRO20083
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780355-1166
Format: TEL
From: CAIRO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978085/aaaaadua.tel
Line Count: 67
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 7ff16f61-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION HEW
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 219181
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1697969
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VISIT OF HEW SECRETARY CALIFANO
TAGS: OVIP, EG, (CALIFANO, JOSEPH A)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/7ff16f61-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014